

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GEORGE 00961 101143Z
ACTION ARA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EB-07 INR-05 CIAE-00 NSC-05
NSCE-00 DODE-00 IGA-01 EUR-08 OES-02 PRS-01 SP-02
L-01 H-01 SIL-01 AF-04 IO-06 PM-03 /068 W
-----110233Z 112919 /14

R 101110Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4623
INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN
AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L GEORGETOWN 0961

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EAID, PFOR, GY
SUBJECT: MORE GUYANA REQUESTS FOR AID

1. DURING A 90-MINUTE MEETING WITH LORD THOMSON, SPECIAL ENVOY OF BRITISH PRIME MINISTER CALLAGHAN AND OF THE COMMONWEALTH SECRETARY GENERAL, ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 4, PRIME MINISTER BURNHAM REPORTEDLY REQUESTED THAT THOMSON ASSIST IN OBTAINING FINANCING IN THE AMOUNT OF 40 MILLION POUNDS STERLING FOR PART OF THE UPPER MAZARUNI HYDRO-ELECTRIC AND DEVELOPMENT PROJECT FROM EUROPEAN COMMERCIAL SOURCES. USUALLY RELIABLE EMBASSY SOURCE OBTAINED THIS INFORMATION FROM LORD THOMSON WHO APPARENTLY AFTERWARDS REALIZED HE HAD MADE A MISTAKE AND ASKED THAT IT NOT BE RELEASED PUBLICLY. THE SOURCE CALLED BURNHAM WHO CONFIRMED THAT A REQUEST HAD BEEN MADE, BUT DID NOT SPECIFY AN AMOUNT.

2. THE DIRECTOR OF THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OFFICE IN GUYANA TUE RHORSTED TOLD ME ON MAY 6 THAT WHEN MINISTER GEORGE KING WAS IN BRUSSELS FOR THE SUGAR
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TALKS HE HAD FORMALLY APPLIED FOR BUDGET ASSISTANCE FOR THE GOG, IN ADDITION TO THE DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE WHICH IS UNDER CONSIDERATION. THE ASSISTANCE WOULD BE WHAT EEC CALLS "FOOD AID" AND COULD BE IN THE FORM OF DIRECT CASH TRANSFERS TO ENABLE GUYANA TO BUY FOOD. RHORSTED ALSO SAID THAT THE PROCESSING OF EEC PROJECTS WAS BEING ACCELERATED SO THAT TWO OR THREE WOULD COME ON STREAM

THIS YEAR. PARTICULAR ATTENTION WAS BEING GIVEN TO
PROJECTS WHICH WOULD GENERATE EMPLOYMENT RAPIDLY.

3. THE POSSIBILITIES FOR HELP FROM OTHER AREAS DO NOT
APPEAR GOOD. NIGERIA HAS TURNED DOWN A GOG REQUEST FOR
AID AND APPARENTLY THE LIBYANS ALSO HAVE NOT BEEN FORTH-
COMING TO DATE. HOWEVER, WE HAVE HEARD FROM A USUALLY
RELIABLE SOURCE THAT FOREIGN MINISTER WILLS WILL STOP IN
LIBYA EN ROUTE BACK FROM YUGOSLAVIA, PROBABLY TO DISCUSS
AGAIN THE POSSIBILITY OF AID. IT MAY BE THAT THE RATHER
ABRUPT TREATMENT OF THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION
DELEGATE WHO WAS HERE A WEEK AGO MAY HAVE BEEN SIMPLY
PART OF GUYANA'S NEGOTIATING TACTICS WITH THE LIBYANS.
BLACKEN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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